Wind energy project by NTPC

†2237. SHRI. KALRAJ MISHRA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that NTPC is formulating plans to set up project in wind energy sector with the aid of the World Bank;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether some private companies would also participate in this plan;

(d) the location identified for this purpose and by when such energy project would be set up along with the quantum of power that would be generated through this project; and

(e) whether NTPC has technical expertise for generation of wind energy and if not, in what manner this deficiency would be removed?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHILKUMAR, SHINDE): (a) and (b) In the Corporate Plan of NTPC Ltd. it is envisaged to add a capacity of 1,000 MW through Renewable Energy Sources. Out of 1,000 MW, 650 MW is to be added through wind energy by 2017. At present there is no proposal of NTPC Ltd. for taking up wind energy projects with World Bank. However, NTPC Ltd. has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Asian Development Bank (ADB) on 23rd July, 2007 for setting up a Joint Venture (JV) company to undertake renewable power generation including wind energy.

(c) The JV company as proposed will be formed among NTPC Ltd., ADB and other strategic investors. Some of the strategic investors could be from private sector.

(d) NTPC Ltd. is in the process of assessing various potential locations for wind energy generation in association with Centre for Wind Energy Technology (C-WET), an autonomous Research and Development (R&D) institution under Ministry of New & Renewable Energy (MNRE).

(e) NTPC Ltd. has expertise for capacity addition for renewable energy sources including wind energy. However, for 50 MW Wind Farm on fast track, NTPC Ltd. has approached C-WET as consultant.

Power theft

2238. SHRl RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether power theft is a major impediment for the growth of power sector in the country;

(b) if so, whether Government had directed the State Governments to launch a special drive against power theft;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.